

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00  
NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01  
H-02 DODE-00 /062 W  
-----161101Z 049388 /13

R 152333Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 908

UNCLAS MEXICO 3226

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SNAR, MX  
SUBJ: NARCOTICS - EFFECTIVENESS OF OPERATION CONDOR UPSETTING  
LOCAL POPULACE

1. MARCH 11 "EXCELSIOR" OF MEXICO CITY CARRIED FOLLOWING  
ITEM DATEDLINE BADIRAGUATO, SINALOA, UNDER HEADLINE "ECONOMY  
OF BADIRAGUATO COLLAPSES DUE TO ANTI-NARCOTIC CAMPAIGN".  
STORY WRITTEN BY EXCELSIOR CORRESPONDENT ROBERTO MARTINEZ  
MONTENEGRO.

2. TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE FOLLOWS:

BADIRAGUATO, SIN., MARCH 10-JESUS IGNACIO MANDELL-  
ESQUERRA, MAYOR OF BADIRAGUATO, SAID TODAY THAT DURING  
"OPERATION CONDOR" TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFIC, THE ECONOMY  
OF THE MUNICIPALITY - SITUATED IN NWESTERN SIERRA MADRE-  
HAS COLLAPSED SINCE AT LEAST 30 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL  
POPULATION (HALF OF THE POPULATION ARE CHILDREN) DEPENDS  
ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING.  
DURING THE INCINERATION OF 60 TONS OF MARIHUANA THE  
MAYOR ADDED: "FOR THIS REASON I SHALL PROPOSE TO THE  
GOVERNOR, ALFONSO G. CALDERON, TO DEVELOP A PLAN OF  
AGRICULTURAL REFORM IN THIS ZONE, WHICH FOR MORE THAN  
TWO DECADES HAS BEEN LEFT OUT OF ANY SOCIAL OR  
ECONOMIC AID PLAN."

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HE EXPLAINED THAT HE WILL ALSO PROPOSE TO THE STATE  
AUTHORITIES THE CREATION OF PIG FARMS WHICH CAN AS-  
SIST TO REESTABLISH THE NOW FEEBLE ECONOMY OF THE  
PEOPLE OF BADIRAGUATO.

LANDEL-ESQUERRA ADDED: "POSSIBLY THE MARGINAL  
STATUS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE SINALOA MOUNTAINS IS  
WHAT MADE THEM PARTICIPATE IN THE OFFENSE OF CULTI-

VATING AND TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS. BUT THAT APPARENT PROSPERITY WAS BUILT ON CRIMINAL BASES, WHICH IS WHY THE MOMENT HAD TO COME WHEN IT WOULD COLLAPSE." HE PROPOSED THAT NOW THE CONCERN OF THE AUTHORITIES SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON CREATING FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE MOUNTAINS LEGAL FORMS OF WORK, IN SUCH A MANNER THAT THEY WILL NOT BE OBLIGATED TO AGAIN PARTICIPATE IN THIS CRIMINAL ACT TO SUBSIST. THE LOCAL CONGRESSMAN, RAMON ALBERTO MONJARDIN, LIMITED HIMSELF TO SAYING: "I RECOGNIZE THE ORGANIZED EFFORT MADE BY 'OPERATION CONDOR' TO HALT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BADIRAGUATO, WHICH IN MY OPINION IS ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT OF THIS MUNICIPALITY."

3. COMMENT: AMCONSUL MAZATLAN REPORTS HEARING SIMILAR COMPLAINTS FROM LOCAL MERCHANTS IN MAZATLAN WHO MISS HEAVY SPENDING OF AREA'S NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, DRUG TRAFFIC, PRESS RELEASES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** NARCOTICS - EFFECTIVENESS OF OPERATION CONDOR UPSETTING LOCAL POPULACE  
**TAGS:** SNAR, SOPN, MX  
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**Review Markings:**  
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